



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – March 14, 2016

FirstNet News

- User Advocacy continues its preparations for the Spring 2016 SPOC in-person meeting on April 12-13, 2016 in McLean, Virginia. Agenda items include Consultation, State Plans, PSAC assignments, Tribal Outreach, NG9-1-1, the Network Request for Proposal (RFP), and others. At last count, 42 states and territories are slated to attend. All attendees should register their attendance at <http://www.cvent.com/d/cfq1vq>. The room block at the Ritz Carlton has closed, however we are working to secure a room block at another hotel within walking distance. Please look for information on additional hotel space in the coming days.
- FirstNet held its Pre-proposal Conference to discuss the RFP on March 10 at its headquarters in Reston, Virginia. To view an archived video stream of the meeting and the slides, please click HERE<<http://firstnet.gov/content/firstnet-npsbn-pre-proposal-conference>>.
- FirstNet's four Board Committees and the full FirstNet Board will hold an open public teleconference and webinar on March 16, 2016 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. EDT. These meetings are open to the public and press via teleconference and webcast. In order to get an accurate headcount, all expected attendees are asked to provide notice of intent to attend by sending an email to BoardRSVP@firstnet.gov<<mailto:BoardRSVP@firstnet.gov>>. Visit <http://www.firstnet.gov/content/firstnet-board-meeting-march-16-2016> for additional information.
- State and Territory single point of contact (SPOC) 2016 Engagement Kick-Off Meetings continued last week in Arizona, Connecticut, Kentucky, North Dakota, and Ohio. FirstNet has now completed meetings in 42 out of 56 states and territories. States have shown an increased interest in the federal consultation process, with questions regarding federal subscriptions, usage, and integration in the event a state/territory decides to opt out and assume responsibility for deployment of the radio access network. Additionally, SPOC teams have shown great interest in upcoming metropolitan focused engagements and participating in the Consultation Task Teams on Quality of Service, Priority and Preemption that will allow their states/territories to help inform future FirstNet policies and procedures.
- Last week, FirstNet published two new entries on its blog: Network Function Virtualization<<http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/cto-blog-network-function-virtualization>> and Communication

Revolution<<http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/communication-revolution>> (reprinted with permission from Firehouse Magazine<<http://www.firehouse.com/article/12161268/communication-revolution>>). All blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at: <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>.

- This week, FirstNet is speaking at the Georgia Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Directors and Leadership conference in Buford, Georgia; the Institute of Fire Engineers (US Branch) Conference with the Center for Public Safety Excellence Annual Gathering Meeting in Orlando, Florida; The Eisenhower School-National Defense University ICT Industry Study Course in Washington, DC; the 2016 Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Emerging Technology Forum in Kansas City, Missouri; the Tennessee Consolidated Network for Emergency Communications and Technology (TN-CNECT) 2016 Regional Public Safety Broadband Conference in Counce, Tennessee; a workshop on Information Sharing and Safeguarding Standards in Reston, Virginia; and the Michigan College of Emergency Physicians meeting in Lansing, Michigan.

News from the PSAC, States and Territories

- User Advocacy staff joined the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) team and public safety practitioners in Boulder, Colorado March 7-10 for a series of PSAC Working Group and Task Team Meetings to align definitions and approaches to a number of topics and tasks. They were able to discuss new PSAC and Early Builder Working Group (EBWG) taskings, update the proposed FirstNet ICAM framework, and discuss aspects of local control as they relate to the network. All five early builders were able to attend and give project updates, and there was a lot of conversation concerning post-RFP activities and State planning.

- The full PSAC will meet via webinar on March 15 from 2:00-3:30 PM ET. The Committee will discuss task team and working group updates as well as receive a brief FirstNet update.

- On Thursday March 17, FirstNet is hosting a briefing for PSAC association staff representatives in Washington, DC at the Department of Commerce. Topics will include an update on FirstNet activities, the PSAC task teams and working groups, and the State and Local Grant Implementation Program (SLIGP). Currently, 13 associations are confirmed to attend.

Media Watch

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NextGov: Most Anticipated IT Contracts in 2016

<http://www.nextgov.com/cio-briefing/2016/03/most-anticipated-it-contracts-2016/126511/><<http://www.mccmag.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/14020><http://www.nextgov.com/cio-briefing/2016/03/most-anticipated-it-contracts-2016/126511/>>

FirstNet posted a request for proposal to build the nation's public-safety broadband network in January, with bids due in April. Fussell calls the timeline for award – by the end of 2016 – “very aggressive,” and said it's likely the FirstNet group is purposely moving quickly in anticipation of bid protests from telecommunications vendors. FirstNet is valued at some \$6.5 billion. It also has a very lengthy period of performance: 25 years.

Investors Business Daily: Spectrum Wild Cards May Add Supply, Impact Verizon, T-Mobile, AT&T <http://www.investors.com/news/technology/spectrum-wild-cards-may-add-supply-impacting-verizon-t-mobile-att/>

Federal regulators appear set to go forward this spring with the auction of airwaves now owned by local TV broadcasters, but other spectrum-related developments loom as wild cards that could increase supply, thereby impacting wireless industry competition and M&As.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet social media enjoyed steady traffic and new users/followers. Twitter gained 23 followers and is now at 3,312 followers, while LinkedIn has 1,384 followers. YouTube now has 229 subscribers, and Google+ is holding at 67 users.